

Tombigbee River Valley Water Management District
5 – Year Strategic Plan
For the Fiscal Years 2022-2026

TOMBIGBEE RIVER VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

1: Vision & Mission Statement for the Agency

VISION: Tombigbee River Valley Water Management District envisions an area of plentiful clean water accessible to all without damage to anyone or anything, serving as a foundation for conservation, recreation, consumption, agricultural development, industrial development, and economic improvement for all. Through this action our state's citizens will experience a better quality of life and will leave their communities better for the generations that follow.

MISSION: Tombigbee River Valley Water Management District's mission is to provide for a plan of conservation; recreation; water control and utilization; agricultural development; industrial and economic advancement, and for the completion of these plans as time, state statutes, federal guidelines and funding permit. (Legislature in HB # 179, R.S. 1962, Amended HB #55, S.E.S. 1962, HB # 793, R.S. 1964)

- The District proposes (as part of this 5-year strategic plan) to continue to provide for flood control and flood prevention, investment in water related recreation and industrial projects.
- To serve as a conduit for federal and other outside funding.
- To assist in tornado and flood cleanup efforts.
- To assist in economic development, public safety, natural resources, and infrastructure for the citizens of our District and the State of Mississippi.

2: Statement of Agency Philosophy

TRVWMD will transparently, efficiently, and effectively help somebody every day and provide ample return to our counties by the wise use of our assets.

3: Overview

The desired goals of the district for the next five years are to provide a broad range of water and water resources related to support services for and within the District's designated counties. The District has, in the past and proposes as part of this "Five Year Strategic Plan", to continue to provide for flood control and flood prevention, invest in water related recreation and industrial projects, and serve as a conduit for Federal and other outside funding (other than state or local) to the District. The District's member counties see us as a critical asset being underutilized in emergency situations due to storms and floods. Through training and improved communications, we will use our assets (employees, trucks, equipment) to assist in tornado and flood cleanup efforts related to storms and floods.

4: External / Internal Assessment

Internal Factors:

- Ability to fluctuate work force with demand.
- State wide rules for small agencies.
- Less than 20 counties.
- Self-funding.

External Factors:

- Federal rules and laws.
- Work seasons.

The District is subject to 5 factors that must apply to all our goals, objectives, strategies and action plans:

- Conform to the laws by which the District was created.
- Meet current Mississippi laws.
- Budget guidelines.
- Federal law and guidelines.
- County requests and our historical relationship with our member counties.

Even though the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway was constructed primarily for navigational, not flood control, it has proven to be beneficial as related to flooding. This is especially true in areas immediately adjacent to the waterway. There are, however, certain inherent problems created within tributaries when a major waterway such as the Tennessee-Tombigbee is constructed. These problems consist of but are not limited to, head-cutting and stream bank erosion which causes large amounts of soil and vegetation to be displaced. The larger vegetation is many times in the form of large trees which in turn cause major drifts and blockages. Without prompt attention, these blockages can exponentially increase the detrimental effects of flooding and erosion, by destroying adjacent lands. In some cases, public roads and bridges and even private homes and businesses can be destroyed.

The District will continue to target improved flood control and prevention as one of its primary activities. This effort will require close coordination between the District's member counties, other local officials and the District. The District is currently working on projects consisting of levee repairs, stream clean out, drift removal, stream bank protection, and county system bridge repair. In order to meet the on-going maintenance demands of the District with current maintenance staff, the District will prioritize projects based on the urgency of each project. The District proposes to address all concerns of the projects.

“Non-visible” problems and project needs continue to grow as a problem. Some of our biggest problems that cause serious economic impact are very minor when they start; such as, a down tree causes a severe creek blockage which creates a long silt filled section of drainage. This can have many outcomes, most of them being bad.

There are many “non-visible” problems created by tornadoes. We must remember this issue as we identify, evaluate and execute projects.

5: District Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Measures by Program:

A: Flood Control Projects

GOAL A: Provide a service to communities to prevent the flooding of homes, erosion of farmland and washing out of roads and bridges within the District. through stream bank protection and stabilization, channel modification and maintenance including clearing, snagging and drift removal and through bridge construction and maintenance.

OBJECTIVE A.1: Prevent flooding, erosion and road and bridge damage within District Counties.

Outcome: Emergency Watershed Projects

STRATEGY A.1.1: Provide labor and equipment for stream bank protection and stabilization, channel modification and maintenance.

Output: Small Projects

Efficiency: Develop \$12 Million in drainage and flood control projects with the District’s partners within five years.

Efficiency: The District will provide funding, up to \$10,000.00 per member county per year, for the Beaver and Feral Hog Control Program.

B: Tombigbee Waterway Projects

GOAL B: Provide first rate service to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the maintenance of flood control levees and structures while serving as the local sponsor for improvement projects.

OBJECTIVE B.1: Act as local sponsor for projects that provide additional support to the District counties along the Waterway.

Outcome: There is no definite way to measure the Outcome but emphasis has been put on increasing the completion of, or repair to, the projects along the Waterway including access roads, boat ramps, recreational areas, with the increase of water supply to the industrial sites.

STRATEGY B.1.1: Act as local sponsor for the development of infrastructure along the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway for the District’s member counties, including recreational lakes and

industrial projects such as boat ramps, access roads and industrial site preparation.

Output: Industrial Sites

Efficiency: As local sponsor for the Tombigbee Waterway, meet with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to assure their interest in the future development of lands along the Waterway. Three parks, three boat ramps and three industrial sites.

C: Water Related Resources

GOAL C: Coordinate all efforts of Local, State and Federal resources toward establishing solutions that will adequately address the problems associated with flooding and related water resource concerns, including the storage of flood waters in lakes.

OBJECTIVE C.1: Assist District counties with the development of recreational structures and industrial water solutions.

Outcome: Coordinate efforts of Local, State and Federal resources to solutions of development relating to water resources and problems that arise from flooding and to provide water related recreational and industrial sites as needed for the area and as funds are available.

STRATEGY C.1.1: Act as local sponsor for the development of infrastructure along the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway for the District's member counties, including recreational lakes and industrial projects such as boat ramps, access roads and industrial site preparation.

Output: Water related recreational and industrial projects along with Watershed sponsored projects

Efficiency: Program efficiencies are measured with regard to projects falling under this designated program and the staff performing work or making cash contributions in a timely manner for the needs to be met. Plans for the twelve member counties to continue with reliable water source are in the creation and development.

D: Resource Conservation and Development

GOAL D: Serve as project sponsor for Northeast Mississippi with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for projects such as forestry, wildlife and recreation.

OBJECTIVE D.1: To serve as project sponsor for Northeast Mississippi with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for projects such as forestry, wildlife and recreation.

Outcome: Kemper County Lake and park project

STRATEGY D.1.1: Provide labor, equipment and materials for the maintenance of the lake dam, water control structures and park amenities.

Output: Total Projects

Efficiency: Continue to make improvements to the project located in Kemper County, Kemper County Lake and Park, as needed and funding is allowed. Capital expenditures are budgeted for FY 2022-2026 and will be used as the Board of Directors sees fit on the existing project or for new projects that develop.